

Introduced By: Senator Mole
Sponsored By: Senator Tache
 Senator Kostis
 Senator Maroto
 Chair Holmes
 Chair Cox
 Young Democratic Socialists of America at UCF
Contact: sga_cah3@ucf.edu
First Reading: April 14, 2022
Committee Action: Passed 10-0-0
Second Reading: April 21, 2022
Final Vote: Passed 41-1-3



University of Central Florida
Fifty-Fourth Student Body Senate
Proclamation 54-01

[Proclamation recognizing May 1st, 2022 as International Workers Day or "May Day"]

WHEREAS, Senate Rule 2.04(G)(1) states that the Student Body Advocacy (SBA) Committee shall pass measures advocating on behalf of the student body regarding student and university affairs at the University of Central Florida (UCF);

WHEREAS, Senate Rule 5.01(D)(1) states that Proclamations are defined as measures celebrating extraordinary events, organizations, or individuals on behalf of all Student Government Agents;

WHEREAS, The following three whereas clauses are according to IWW.org: At its national convention in Chicago, held in 1884, the Federation of Organized Trades and Labor Unions (which later became the American Federation of Labor), proclaimed that "eight hours shall constitute a legal day's labor from and after May 1, 1886";

WHEREAS, On May 1, 1886, more than 300,000 workers in 13,000 businesses across the United States walked off their jobs in the first May Day celebration in history;

WHEREAS, In Chicago, the epicenter for the 8-hour day agitators, 40,000 people went out on strike in the forefront of the public's eye and were later joined by a crowd of nearly 100,000 over the coming days;

WHEREAS, The following 7 whereas clauses are according to the Illinois Labor History society: on Monday, May 3, the peaceful scene turned violent when the Chicago police attacked and killed picketing workers at the McCormick Reaper Plant at Western and Blue Island Avenues;

WHEREAS, The Haymarket meeting was almost over and only about two hundred people remained when they were attacked by 176 policemen carrying Winchester repeater rifles;

WHEREAS, The confusion caused by this violence caused an unknown individual to throw a dynamite bomb into the crowd, causing the police to panic, and in the darkness many shot at their own men;

WHEREAS, Eventually, seven policemen died, only one directly accountable to the bomb. Four workers were also killed;

WHEREAS, Following this tragedy, martial law was declared throughout the nation and eight of the labor organizers were arrested, with seven initially being sentenced to death by hanging for their involvement with organizing the protest;

WHEREAS, The Haymarket Affair took on worldwide dimension in July 1889, when a delegate from the American Federation of Labor recommended at a labor conference in Paris that May 1 be set aside as International Labor Day in memory of Haymarket martyrs and the injustice of the Haymarket Affair;

WHEREAS, Today, in almost every major industrial nation, May Day is Labor Day. Even Great Britain and Israel have passed legislation in recent years declaring this date a national holiday;

WHEREAS, The struggle for Workers' Rights continues to this day, with labor organizing efforts taking place in Starbucks locations, Amazon Warehouses, and workplaces all across the country;

WHEREAS, Retaliation against labor organizers continues to this day, from the firing of union organizers, to the murder of labor union leaders in Colombia by paramilitaries;

WHEREAS, According to *UCF Today*, more than half of UCF graduates have received job offers or entered the workforce at the time of graduation;

WHEREAS, UCF currently has more than 12,000 employees, including student workers, according to its UCF Facts 2021-2022 webpage;

WHEREAS, Several UCF students are employed in some capacity, including students currently working at the E Mitchell Hammock and City Plaza Starbucks in Oviedo, that is organizing a union; and

WHEREAS, UCF Student Government stands in solidarity with student, future student, and alumni workers in recognizing May 1st as International Workers Day, or May Day.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, By the Fifty-Fourth Student Senate of the University of Central Florida that it recognizes May 1st, 2022 as International Workers Day, or "May Day"; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this Proclamation be sent to President Alexander Cartwright, UFF-UCF President Robert Cassanello, and the Starbucks Workers United of Orlando.

AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES

Emma J. Custis

Emma Custis
Senate President

04/25/22

Date

Meg Hall

Meg Hall
Student Body President

4/27/22

Date